

107TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. RES. 126

Expressing the sense of the Senate regarding observance of the Olympic Truce.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 11, 2001

Mr. DASCHLE (for himself, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. REID, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. HARDIN, Mr. DORGAN, and Mr. SARBANES) submitted the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

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## RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate regarding observance of the Olympic Truce.

Whereas the Olympic Games are a unique opportunity for international cooperation and the promotion of international understanding;

Whereas the Olympic Games bring together embattled rivals in an arena of peaceful competition;

Whereas the Olympic Ideal is to serve peace, friendship, and international understanding;

Whereas participants in the ancient Olympic Games, as early as 776 B.C., observed an “Olympic Truce” whereby all warring parties ceased hostilities and laid down their weapons for the duration of the games and during the period of travel for athletes to and from the games;

Whereas war extracts a terrible price from the civilian populations that suffer under it, and truces during war allow for the provision of humanitarian assistance to those suffering populations;

Whereas truces may lead to a longer cessation of hostilities and, ultimately, a negotiated settlement and end to conflict;

Whereas the Olympics can and should be used as a tool for international public diplomacy, rapprochement, and building a better world;

Whereas terrorist organizations have used the Olympics not to promote international understanding but to perpetrate cowardly acts against innocent participants and spectators;

Whereas, since 1992, the International Olympic Committee has urged the international community to observe the Olympic Truce;

Whereas the International Olympic Committee and the Government of Greece established the International Olympic Truce Center in July 2000, and that Center seeks to uphold the observance of the Olympic Truce and calls for all hostilities to cease during the Olympic Games; and

Whereas the United Nations General Assembly, with the strong support of the United States, has three times called for member states to observe the Olympic Truce, most recently for the XXVII Olympiad in Sydney, Australia: Now, therefore, be it

1        *Resolved,*

1 **SECTION 1. SENSE OF THE SENATE WITH RESPECT TO THE**  
 2 **OLYMPIC TRUCE.**

3 (a) COMMENDATION OF THE IOC AND THE GOVERN-  
 4 MENT OF GREECE.—The Senate commends the efforts of  
 5 the International Olympic Committee and the Government  
 6 of Greece to urge the international community to observe  
 7 the Olympic Truce.

8 (b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the  
 9 Senate that—

10 (1) the United States Government should join  
 11 efforts to use the Olympic Truce as an instrument  
 12 to promote peace and reconciliation in areas of con-  
 13 flict; and

14 (2) the President should continue efforts to  
 15 work with Greece—

16 (A) in its preparations for a successful  
 17 XXVIII Olympiad in Greece in 2004; and

18 (B) to uphold and extend the spirit of the  
 19 Olympic Truce during the XXVIII Olympiad.

20 **SEC. 2. TRANSMITTAL OF RESOLUTION.**

21 The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy  
 22 of this resolution to the President with the request that  
 23 he further transmit such copy to the International Olym-  
 24 pic Committee and the Government of Greece.

